

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Wednesday, March 29, 2000

IRONDEQUOIT BAY OUTLET BRIDGE TO CLOSE ON FRIDAY MARCH $31^{\rm ST}$

Span to Remain in Place through Morning Rush Hour

The Irondequoit Bay Outlet Bridge will be closed to vehicular traffic on Friday March 31st beginning at approximately 9:15 AM – at the end of the morning "rush hour." The structure will remain closed to traffic for eight months and is scheduled to reopen on December 1, 2000.

The Irondequoit Bay Outlet Bridge (IBOB) is located at the north end of Irondequoit Bay, spanning the outlet between Lake Road in the Town of Webster and Culver Road in the Town of Irondequoit. Removal of the bridge will provide open boat access between Irondequoit Bay and Lake Ontario.

The current seasonal bridge was designed to span the outlet for vehicular traffic during the winter months and, in conformance with permits granted by the United States Coast Guard, is to be removed during the boating season.

IBOB is maintained and operated by the Monroe County Department of Transportation (DOT). County DOT operates the bridge in conformity with permits granted by the United States Coast Guard and, subsequently, does not have the authority to leave the bridge in place between April 1st and December 1st each year.

The bridge closure is expected to take most of the day on Friday, March 31st and, once locked in place, will offer area residents an overlook access area and other passive recreation opportunities along the outlet of Irondequoit Bay.

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